

OPC Bulletin

Does Europe Want Bush Or Clinton?

OPC begins the fall with a provocative look by three savvy Europeans at the presidential race during a luncheon Tuesday, Sept. 15, at 3 West 51st St.

The transatlantic partnership may be at stake. Who wins the race and what policies he pursues could determine whether the U.S. remains fully engaged in Europe or retreats into isolationism.

Relations between the U.S. and Europe, East and West, are at a crossroads. New trade blocks are emerging on both sides of the Atlantic, security alliances are coming unglued, and history is showing a nasty habit of reasserting itself.

Jurek Martin, U.S. editor of the *Financial Times* and formerly foreign editor, will present a British view. Representing the French viewpoint will be Annie Cohen-Solal, French cultural attaché of in New York and author of a forthcoming book on U.S.-French relations. From eastern Europe will be Mitja Mersol, U.S. correspondent of *Delo*, a newspaper in Slovenia, who accurately predicted at an OPC program the civil war that has devastated the region and taken the lives of 8,000 people, including at least 30 journalists.

Moderator will be Nicholas Wahl, director of the Center for European Studies at New York University and author of a book on French politics.

Bill Holstein of *Business Week*, head of the OPC program committee, said a question-and-answer period would fol-

low the discussion. Other committee members are Andrew Nibley of Reuters, Steve Rago of the *New York Times*, and Jacqueline Simon of *Politique Internationale*. The program will conclude at 2 p.m. For reservations, call 983-4655.

Death In Sarajevo

Seventy-eight years after the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, Sarajevo again figures large in the news, and while the death by sniper fire of David Kaplan, an ABC News producer, on Aug. 13 is but one of 8,000 recent fatalities in what used to be Yugoslavia, still it brings home to us in the coldest possible way a reminder of how grim the profession of overseas reporter can be.

Kaplan, 45, was cited by Roone Arledge, president of ABC News, as a man of intense dedication, humor, imagination and courage. The OPC offers its condolences to his wife, Sally, and his colleagues at ABC. Kaplan was the first American news person to die in the conflict, but two dozen other reporters from around the world have been killed in the region since the Yugoslav Federation disintegrated into civil war June 1991. Our condolences also go to their families, friends and colleagues.

The OPC is dedicated to assisting and protecting—as far as it can—the lives and well being of reporters everywhere. Norman Schorr, chairman of the Freedom of the Press Committee and a vice president of the club, regularly appeals to heads of state and others in power for fair play and justice for journalists held hostage or in jail.

President: Here We Go Again...

By Larry Smith, OPC President

A vital, growing membership and a good home continue to be primary objectives as the Overseas Press Club of America enters its 53rd autumn. As the incoming president, I aim to work toward these goals as well as help as much as I can to assure that we have good, relevant monthly programs, a successful awards dinner accompanied by a strong, handsome issue of *Dateline* stuffed with advertising. Even more important, we must continue to be a mechanism that is swift to act on behalf of news people unjustly detained or imprisoned anywhere in the world—and, without gloom, retain the capacity to assemble on a cheerful occasion or two over the course of the year.

The membership reached 125 in 1939 when the club was founded in a saloon in Greenwich Village, rose to 3,000 in the postwar years and has declined to less than 1,000. H.L. Stevenson, the previous president, and his predecessors, Len Saffir and Herb Kupferberg, worked hard to generate new members, who are regularly listed in the *OPC Bulletin*. In addition to recruiting whenever and wherever possible, we are planning a major drive for later this year.

There are those who remain uncomfortable with our existing quarters at 3 West 51st Street. A committee headed by John Corporon of WPXI continues to

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NEWSWEEK INTERNATIONAL

MAIDMENT HIRED, BURGER TO LONDON

Paul Maidment, New York-based American finance editor of the *Economist*, moves to *Newsweek International* this month as a senior editor.

Meanwhile, **William Burger** will move to London in January to become European economics editor.

Burger had been a senior editor in New York overseeing coverage of Asian affairs and world business.

Newsweek International was the 1991 winner of the OPC's Morton Frank award for best business and economics reporting from abroad, for stories by **William Powell**, Asia economics editor and Tokyo bureau chief.

& DOMESTIC

NEW 'WALLENDAS' ON MADISON AVE.

Sara Crichton and **Alexcis Gelber** have been promoted to assistant managing editors of *Newsweek*. **Cathleen McGuigan** succeeds Crichton as senior editor for the arts.

MEMBERS NEW TO OPC

NINE JOIN RANKS

Active Resident
Robert J. Dowling, assistant managing editor, *Business Week*, New York.

Active Non-Resident

John Alius, general manager, Servicio Universal de Noticias, Mexico (reinstated); **David Alfred Higgs Sr.**, business editor, *Register-Star*, Hudson, New York; **Thomas R. Kennedy**, director of photography, National Geographic Society, Washington; **Rhoda Schwartz**, producer, NBC News, Washington.

Associate Resident
Steve Rago, director, New Business Development, *New York Times*, New York.

Associate Non-Resident

Stephen L. Saks, photojournalist, San Mateo, California.

Affiliate
David R. Chittick, E&S Engineering vice president, AT&T, Basking Ridge, New Jersey; **Thomas S. Davis**, director, E&S Engineering Affairs, AT&T, Basking Ridge, New Jersey.

SOUTH PACIFIC

MOANA TREGASKIS MARKS MILESTONE

The 50th anniversary of the Guadalcanal battle in the Solomon Islands was observed on Guadalcanal Aug. 6 to 8 with the dedication of an American memorial to the battle that helped turn the tide in the Pacific during World War II.

OPC member **Moana Tregaskis** of Honolulu attended along with dignitaries from several nations.

She is the widow of **Richard Tregaskis**, an INS correspondent on Guadalcanal whose book, *Guadalcanal Diary*, was a book club selection and basis of a 20th Century Fox film. Published in a number of languages, the book is still in print.

The memorial on Skyline Drive overlooking the Matanikau River bears descriptions of the battles and the U.S. Marine Corps, Army, and Navy units. It commemorates the 1942 landings on Guadalcanal's Red Beach and Tulagi's Blue Beach.

A statue of Sgt. Major Jacob Vouza

was unveiled. Vouza, a Solomon Islander, served as a scout for U.S. Marines.

While carrying battle information, he was caught by Japanese and left for dead. But Vouza survived, dragging himself back to U.S. lines with his report.

Now independent, the Solomon Islands became a member of the United Nations in 1978.

GERMANY

KATHERINE SANFORD HORKAN

From Bavaria, OPCer **Katherine Sanford Horkan** reports that she visited the International Tourism Bourse in Berlin. She spoke with Hemjo Klein, chairman of the German Railways, about plans for a new route in east Germany and with Spain's Tourism Department about Seville's World's Fair.

Horkan writes that Germany's new express trains "make life for journalists much easier. German Autobahn travel during vacation times makes the Los Angeles Freeway look like a piece of cake."

OPCBulletin

ISSN-0738-7202
Monthly except August. \$24/year Included in dues. Copyright © 1992 Overseas Press Club of America.

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OBITUARIES

JEAN BAER

Jean Baer, long-time OPC member, secretary for four years, and governor, died July 1 of cancer. She was 69.

Norman Schorr of the Overseas Press Club remembered Jean as "highly professional and dedicated to her craft as a writer."

He added, "She was inquisitive, creative, well disciplined and a hard worker. As an active officer and board member for many years, she made an enduring contribution to the life of the OPC."

"For more years than anyone knew," Rosalind Massow, a member of the OPC Board of directors, recalled, "Jean fought her battle with multiple cancers but she never dropped a beat in her work or in her love and service to the club. Name a committee and she had worked on it. She never refused a club assignment. On a personal level, she was always there to offer a hand, do a little matchmaking or give some sound advice. During her final days, Jean thought a lot about the club and when she

was told that she had been re-elected to the board, her spirits rose."

A well-known author of self-help articles and books, Jean was a Chicago native and a 1944 Cornell graduate.

Her 1965 book *Follow Me*, a travel guide for single women, was her first big success. She was then single and the publicity director for *Seventeen*, and based the book on her many trips to Europe, South America, and other areas.

Three years later came *The Single Girl Goes To Town*. The same year she married Herbert Fensterheim, a clinical psychologist.

He was her co-author in psychological writings, including *Making Life Right When It Falls All Wron* in 1988.

She also wrote *The Self-Chosen*, published by Arbor House in 1982, on what she called "the world of the Jewish elite."

She is survived by her husband, a sister, Carol Norr of Scarsdale, N.Y., and a brother, Roger Baer of Woodstock, N.Y.

ED HYMOFF

Ed Hymoff, 67, author, newsman and longtime member, died in his home in Belmont, Mass., on July 9.

Hymoff was vice

president of communications and marketing for the National Security Institute, a defense industry firm.

As an INS correspondent in the Korean War, Hymoff, who studied Russian, monitored voices of Russian pilots. Censors refused to pass his story.

Hymoff, who later reported the Vietnam War, also worked for *The World Telegram and Sun*; NBC, New York; CBS in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe; and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

He consulted for U.S. Information Agency, Voice of America, Defense Department, and League of Women Voters. He was author of 10 books, most on military subjects.

During World War II, he served with the Office of Strategic Services, forerunner of the CIA and the subject of one of his books.

MARJORIE RAVENHOLT

Marjorie Ravenholt, 71, a former *Life* reporter in China, died in Seattle in May of complications following lung cancer surgery, her husband,

Al Ravenholt, reported.

In World War II, she was an intelligence agent for the Office of Strategic Services in India and China.

With residences in Manila and Seattle, the Ravenholts have been journalists in Asia since the early days of the Pacific War. Al plans to return to Manila to continue his work.

DAN MORRIS

MCGRAW-HILL HIRES OPCER

McGraw-Hill has appointed M.D. (Dan) Morris to edit a series of construction guides aimed at increasing the profitability and efficiency of contractors. An editor for 27 years with another book publisher, Morris lives in Ithaca, N.Y.

CBS NEWS ASKS HELP

DOCUMENTARY ON HITLER, STALIN

Correspondents who were in Germany during the 1930's are asked to call producer Craig R. Prediger, (212) 975-7761, or write 555 W. 57th St., New York, N.Y. 10019.

Share your activities.

Overseas members: Al Kaff, Cornell Univ. News Service, 840 Hanshaw Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850.

Domestic members: Ralph Gardner, OPC, Suite 2116, 310 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017.

Sept. Panel

Tuesday, September 15, Noon – 2 p.m.. "Does Europe Want Bush or Clinton?" Jurek Martin, U.S. editor, *Financial Times*; Annie Cohen-Solal, French cultural attaché in New York; Mitja Mersol, U.S. correspondent, *Delo*, Slovenia; and moderator Nicholas Wahl, director, Center for European Studies, New York University. See story, Page 1. Reservations: Mary Novick, 983-4655.

Here We Go

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explore alternatives, which we will report on as the year unfolds. Meanwhile, a magazine editor from London told me recently that his colleagues and friends were jealous of his membership in the OPC because he gets to stay in an ideal midtown location for less than \$100 a night when he comes to New York. "Really?" I said. "Sign 'em up."

And back he went to London with a sack of membership applications. There are some good things about 3 West 51st St., and this is one of them. The food isn't bad, either.

Under Stevenson's leadership, the club had two excellent years, and the two awards dinners, the first featuring Peter Arnett and the second honoring Terry Anderson, were just what such occasions should be. Stevenson would be the first to say the reason things turned out so well was because of the outstanding efforts of Mary Novick, the club manager, and Anita Diamant, head of the dinner committee, and Allan Frank, chairman of the awards committee, and a great many others.

The programs, shaped in a large part by Bill Holstein of *Business Week* and Andrew Nibley of Reuters, were just great last year. Rick MacArthur attracted more than 70 to his outspoken account in June of propaganda and the Gulf War. We also heard from Arthur M. Schlesinger at our January scholarship lunch and featured strong programs on Japan 50 years after Pearl Harbor and the Free Trade Agreement with Mexico and Canada. Len Saffir found us a Mark Twain reincarnate who was feisty and comical. We also looked at Cuba, the Ukraine, the two Germanys and, at our September lunch a year ago, the Soviet Union. There was also a highly informative and exciting book night featuring Liz Trotta and Ruth Gruber. If these occasions lacked for anything, it was in attendance, so please watch for the program alerts, usually sent out two weeks before the event, or catch the announcements in the *OPC Bulletin* and plan to attend as many as you can. They generally run from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on a Tuesday or a Thursday in the third or fourth week of the month. Joining Holstein and Nibley on the committee are Steve Rago of the *New York Times* and Jackie Simon of *Politique International*. Programs, except for the luncheons, are free.

The fall programs begin Sept. 15 with a luncheon focusing on how Europeans view the presidential race, and it'll be interesting. It's described in more detail elsewhere in this *OPC Bulletin*.

Norman Schorr, as surely everyone knows, is both prompt and fierce in responding to accounts of reporters expelled, editors jailed, newspapers shut down or reporters assassinated. He brings a flare of light to hours of darkness. Dictators hate seeing their names in the paper over such things. Norman wrote and wrote— as did hundreds of others— on behalf of Terry Anderson, for example. Pressures and threats are widespread against the press in parts of Latin America, as James McClatchy, president of the Inter American Press Association, has pointed out, and it may be that in the forthcoming year Norman and the OPC can do something to help call attention to those conditions.

If you know any stories that should be told, or if you have any interests, desires, concerns or passions relating to the club— if you have any good program ideas— write John Polich, editor of the *OPC Bulletin* or me in care of Mary Novick, 310 Madison Ave., Suite 2116, New York, N.Y. 10017.

Hope to see you at the Sept. 15 lunch!

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